

REMARKS

The specification and the claims have been amended to include the Article 34 amendments of the PCT application and to delete the multiple dependencies. Marked-up and clean copies of the specification pages and a clean copy of the claims are attached hereto. Examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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1 2. (Amended) A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim 18, in which at
2 least one of the first and second clamping members has a supporting surface, substantially
3 opposite the clamping surface, the supporting surface being arranged to support webbing.

1 3. A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim 2, in which the or each
2 supporting surface is smoothly curved to allow webbing to slide thereon.

1 6. (Amended) A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim 18, wherein the
2 shaft is cylindrical.

1 7. (Amended) A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim 2, wherein the
2 supporting surface is provided on the other clamping member for supporting webbing
3 wrapped therearound, the supporting surface being configured to prevent undue tension on
4 webbing supported thereby.

1 8. (Amended) A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim 7, wherein the
2 inner frame comprises a first pair of substantially parallel inner plates, and the outer frame
3 comprises a second pair of substantially parallel outer plates, the assembly further comprising
4 a roller shaft, wherein the first pair of substantially parallel inner plates is mounted on the
5 roller shaft to pivot between the first and second positions, and wherein in the first position,
6 the inner plates of the first frame lie between the outer plates of the second frame, and
7 wherein the supporting surface extends within the boundary of the inner plates in the first
8 position.

1 9. A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim 8, further comprising a latching
2 mechanism, for securing the inner plates with respect to the outer plates in the first position.

1 10. A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim 9, wherein the first pair of
2 substantially parallel inner plates are linked together by a handle for movement between the
3 first and second positions.

1 11. (Amended) A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim 9, in which the
2 tensioning mechanism includes a pair of slots in respective ones of either the first pair of
3 substantially parallel inner plates or the second pair of substantially parallel outer plates, the
4 roller shaft extending through the pair of slots and being rigidly mounted to the other of the
5 first pair of substantially parallel inner plates or the second pair of substantially parallel outer
6 plates, so that the first frame can be displaced relative to the second frame along the length of
7 the slots.

1 12. A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim 11, in which the slots are
2 curved.

1 13. (Amended) A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim 11, in which the
2 roller shaft forms one of the first and second clamping members and the other of the first and
3 second clamping members is rigidly secured between the parallel plates of the frame carrying
4 the slots.

1 14. (Amended) A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim 18, in which the
2 assembly has a first end and a second end, the first end carrying a hook mounted to the first

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3 or second frame for attachment to an object to be tied down, the hook secured to the first or
second frame at a pair of securing points.

1 15. A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim 14, in which webbing enters
2 and exits the assembly at the second end thereof, the webbing being wrapped around at least
3 one supporting surface and between the clamping surfaces of the first and second clamping
4 members.

1 16. A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim 15, in which the at least one
2 supporting surface includes one or more pulley shafts arranged within the assembly to
3 distribute the load of the webbing whilst spacing apart the surfaces thereof.

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1 17. (Amended) A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim 15, in which the
2 supporting surface adjacent the second end of the assembly has a minimum radius of
3 curvature of 6.35mm.
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1 18. A webbing tie down assembly, comprising:
2 an inner frame and an outer frame, the inner frame and the outer frame being
3 arranged to support webbing therein and including a clamping mechanism comprising: a first
4 clamping member supported by the inner frame and having a first clamping surface, and a
5 second clamping member supported by the outer frame and having a second clamping
6 surface, the inner frame being mounted with respect to the outer frame for movement
7 between a first position in which the first and second clamping surfaces are substantially
8 together for clamping webbing therebetween, and a second position in which the clamping
9 surfaces are apart for allowing webbing to slide therethrough; and further including a

10 tensioning mechanism, for disengaging the first and second clamping surfaces when the inner
11 frame and outer frame are in the first position to permit the webbing to slide therebetween to
12 enable tensioning of the webbing,

13 characterized in that one of the first and second clamping members comprises a shaft,
14 and the clamping surface of the other clamping member has a complementary curvature, so
15 that the clamping surfaces of the first and second clamping members lie substantially parallel
16 in the first position so that a clamping force on the webbing is distributed over a relatively
17 large surface area of the webbing.

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